

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Utah State Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Patti Harrington
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

DATE: February 6, 2009

DISCUSSION: Key Points of the Legislative Audit, *A Performance Audit of School Busing*

Background: On November 18, 2008, the Office of the Legislative Auditor General released *A Performance Audit of School Busing*. The USOE is in the process of responding to all of the recommendations that were made and would like to discuss some of the key points of the audit. Several of the audit recommendations will be adopted into the current revision of *Standards for Utah School Buses and Operations*. However, the audit recommended that the State Board of Education address, through an administrative rule, issues relating to school buses being used for non-pupil transportation, and school buses traveling over state lines.

Proposal:

- The auditors recommended that the Board review the risk component of both issues as State Risk Management has expressed concern of liability exposure.
- Other factors to be reviewed include: use of state funds to subsidize private sector activities, infringement on busing competition, capitalization and depreciation schedules of buses, participation of school districts in broader community affairs, and various other factors.

Anticipated Results: The Finance Committee will review issues surrounding the use of a school bus for non-pupil transportation and for traveling over state lines, and direct staff to prepare position statements for final review at a future committee meeting.

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